



State of California CALIFORNIA OFFICE OF HEALTH INFORMATION INTEGRITY



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California Releases Model Participants Agreement to Facilitate Electronic Health Information Exchange

Broad Stakeholder Group Involved in Design; Comments Urged

SACRAMENTO - The California Health and Human Services Agency's (CHHS), Office of Health Information Integrity (CalOHII) today announced the release of the first Modular Model Participant Agreement (MMPA). The MMPA tool is intended to help reduce the cost barrier associated with the development of individual contract language for organizations seeking to participate in electronic health information exchange. The document will help California health information organizations (HIOs) simplify the contracting process by providing a common baseline reference tool that can be adopted and modified as necessary.

The agreement and background on its purpose and development can be accessed on the CalOHII website: <http://ohii.ca.gov/calohi/MMPA.aspx>. Written comments will be accepted through November 9, 2012.

"Having the MMPA resource available will not only promote consistent language and intent, it will enable organizations with limited resources to control some of the costs of negotiation, making the adoption of health information more efficient," said Pamela Lane, Deputy Secretary, Health Information Exchange. "This model addresses a continuum of contracting situations and relationships, enabling users to easily customize contracts."

Developed by a broad base of health care stakeholders, the MMPA is considered a "living document" and will be updated as circumstances warrant.

The CalOHII works in support of the CHHS's health information exchange (HIE) initiatives, oversees the collaborative statewide development and implementation of privacy and security policy for the electronic exchange of health information, enforces state law mandating the confidentiality of medical information and ensures uniform and cost effective HIPAA implementation.

For more information, please visit: <http://ehealth.ca.gov/>.